

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR HARVEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY – JUNE 10, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting of the regular City Council was called to order by Mayor Christopher J. Clark at 7:17 p.m.

Mayor Clark asked City Clerk Arambula to call the roll of Council members. Present were Alderwoman Shirley Drewenski, Aldermen Marshun Tolbert, Quinton Crudup, Tracy Key, Dominique Randel El, Tyrone Rogers and Mayor Christopher Clark J. Clark.

Bishop Owens gave the invocation and Mayor Clark led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor I like to make an adjustment to agenda under the swearing in of Police Chief Eddie Winters and Fire Chief Jason we also have the swearing in of Deputy Chief Martin Smith.

Moved by Alderwoman Drewenski motion to amend the agenda. The motion was second by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Clark "Thank you Council, the other adjustment is under 11. Resolution# 2897 that is not a first reading."

Alderman Tolbert "What is it Mr. Mayor, if it's not a 1st reading ?

Mayor Clark "We are no longer using 1st and 2nd readings."

Mayor Clark "Now we will entertain public comment to allow a total of 10 minutes, 2 minute a piece."

Alderman Tolbert "Can we say 3 minutes?"

Alderman Rogers "Due to the volume of residents that want to express themselves mayor I suggest we double it to 20 minutes and allow everyone to speak."

Mayor Clark "May I get a suggestion on how long you want public comment to last."

Alderman Randle El "I'm for 3 minutes, no cap to give everyone the opportunity. I do want everyone that has something to say, have the opportunity to speak."

Mayor Clark "If council says we will go 3 minutes, no cap on comments"

Ms. Harris "Mayor I'm here to let you know that I've have seen a change at the bus depot, night and day, clean like it was when it first open. I'm also an elected trustee at Harvey Public Library, I wish I could see a fraction of you at the Harvey Library meeting on Tuesday, June 18 at 6:00 p.m. Thank you".

Mayor Clark "This is public comment only. If you have a question, the question will not be answered in this session. It is just public comment only."

Resident at 155th & Lincoln, I have some information I would like to pass on to my Alderman Mr. Crudup, Streets and Sanitation, Some village has gotten a grant for abandon properties to cut grass, clean up rubbish and demolish houses and I would like to leave some information hopefully it will help so we can this under control."

Ms. Bailey we represent Streamside Park 6th Ward we are concerned about flooding every time it rains water enters the basement. We are also concerned about abandon cars being left for long periods of time, branches left and not picked up."

Ms. Rateree comment about an eyesore and the neighbors are upset about the eye sore property in the neighborhood, it been 40 years."

Mrs. Rogers "14547 Harvey Avenue and I'm upset about the high grass, I live on one corner and the snakes live on another corner. She complained pot holes in the street, raccoons and snakes. The Aldermen were not hired to be landscapers they were hired to be Aldermen and I think the city needs to take that responsibility on."

Ms. Donahue "14720 Lincoln for over 50 years there are certain things we would like to see the Aldermen, the Administration and the Mayor they are: integrity, transparency, accountability, vision and vitality. We don't want any cover ups anymore. Don't hide from us, we're looking for you."

Resident, at 320 E. 147th Street I have I live on Sibley, the abandon buildings, has high grass, trees need to be cut down, its' horrible. The alley is terrible. It's blocking the view of my house. My house had attempted brake ins, three times last year. I need those trees cut down, I've gotten water in my house."

Resident, I speak as long- time resident in Harvey, A lot of these things that the people are saying, I feel the same way and a lot of these things that are going on. I have a lot of ideas, and I have a solution. I spent a lot of time reading up on these same issues."

Mr. Brown 14447 Leavett Ave. a weeks ago a truck pulled up next to my house and dumped a whole truck load of wood. I told the police. There is a field on the North side of the house the weeds are as tall as the house, it needs to be cut, when I come down the alley, I can't see. I need someone to take care of that."

Ms. Ware 14734 Maplewood. I'm here to address the Harvey Community Center. I run one of the vert last youth organization in Harvey, the Harvey Blue Angels and we have things in the community center that belong to us and we would like to pick up. We have a parade on Friday. Thank you Alderman Key for cutting the trees and grass and doing what you ae suppose to do."

Ms. Hooks 14946 Turlington my concern and issue is I have not seen any press releases about all the shootings that have been going on. There were shooting right outside my back door. I called 911 and nobody answered. It should have not taken two calls to get answer from 911 and because the grass was so tall, they went right past the young make laying in the grass dead. He could have been saved, time is of the essence. I've seen Harvey in the news about all these boxes what about the shootings. Why are boxes in a room more important than lives being lost of these young people in the community."

Ms. Harrington "My concern is based all around safety flooding we have a sewer at the end of our drive away and another one the side of our house and when it's rains it floods we have to wear boots just to get in our cars. It a concern because my father is a senior citizen and he is having issues and I can't get him out. The second concern I have are the street signs, you can't read the street signs, the sign you can't read is a one way street. And people are driving the wrong way. The third concern is the tall trees, you can't see around the curb."

Resident "My property is in the back, I'm in the 4th Ward. 364 W. 150th. my property is by a T- enter section and I don't forgot me back there. I would appreciate if you could send someone back there.to cut. When I call you, your mailbox is always full. I'm going to be watching you and I will be reporting stuff.

Resident "We need to show how our money is being spent in our Wards, so we can have a real accounting of how that money is being spent this time. I'm hoping that our aldermen will reach out to the community and attend our block clubs meetings. So we can have a real accounting of where the dollars are going this time."

Mr. King at 216 Calumet Blvd. You need to communicate with your people, you need to have ward meeting. We need to be concern, the Metra station at 147th is the worst station. We can work together and do some things on our own. We can buy our own tractor and cut our own weeds, we need to weed and feed those fields so they wont grow so tall. We need our youth to work in our city.

Ms. Hazel at 16010 Ashland right now, I'm living in a very dangerous situation because there is toxic stuff is coming out of my sewer. I might have to abandon my house. Harvey can go again, we have an abandon houses our grass is tall. Harvey is the oldest suburbs out here. We can make Harvey great".

Resident "I just want to say one thing. The person I met at election time, that's the person I want to see here in the next meeting. I just want to meet with the people that made all these promises and said they were going to keep them to get that vote."

Ms. Hawkins 301 E. 148th Place. "My concern is the property next to me that had the fire, is now becoming a dump site and it is making the area extremely dangerous for my family and other families. The grass is up to my waist and need something to be done about that. I would like to congratulate each and every one of you on your seats."

Ms. Savage, 148th Cooper, I represent the citizens on Cooper and we are having a problem with trash in alleys have been there for over 6 months and now they are dumping tires. We would like our Alderman come around there we haven't seen him since the election."

Ms. Barnette 15937 Gauger Ave. "We have the best block club in Harvey and I want to keep it that way. Congratulations Mayor Clark and all elected officials. I know Harvey is not in the business of decorating with concrete bricks. When you put the large bricks out. We have persons stealing our water at night. On the corner of 159th Gauger we have prostitution going on night and day, women come out with panties and bras on. 20 cars parked up and down the street. What are we to do? I can't stand by and let Gauger go to waste."

Resident "I just want to say. You need to cut this time down, two hours is long enough when it's time for the meeting. By the time you get started, I'll be too tired to listen. You need to cut the time down. Most of your concerns you are talking about, can take care of yourselves. Cut your own grass. Pick up your own branches off the curb. You can hire some of these young men to cut your grass. The mayor can do everything, the aldermen can't do everything, they just got into office about a month ago, give them a chance."

Mr. Irvin a resident of the 3rd Ward, Congratulations to Mayor and aldermen that won. I'm concerned about the money for lawn cutting and how we are going to pay. There need to be a standard in place so that it can be more uniformed.. Each ward had a different number of houses and I know every lot is a different size, so it's something we have to look into because we have had some problems in the past."

Resident "There is a lot to be done all over this city. My concern is the trailer park area. 150th & Dixie all the way down to California. We have all kind of problems there, the roads are really bad. The street department did fill up the holes but it did no last.. there's a large filed that needs to be cut down you can't see down the street. So if you could take care of the filed that would be a plus.?"

Resident 14431 Vincennes Rd. back there we keep up our own property. We must do some things for ourselves. My concern is house on the corner that has not cut there grass this year. Someone needs to tell them to cut there grass, they have all kinds of people in that house and the grass is not cut. The next issue I have is the streets are really bad. I can't get to the Metra station any more without going a different route every day, that's something

we really need to work on.” The grass I’m a woman and I get out there and take care of that .It’s not city’s responsibility to cut our grass, the vacant lots, yes the city is responsible to take care of that.

Ms. Smith “I would like the aldermen phone numbers and emails so I can reach out to them. Mayor, I’m glad you did the boxes, it just showed me that things are not organized and it will take some time to get organized, I do understand so keep up with the transparency”

Resident at 14417 Vincennes Rd. I live by the Veteran’s memorial. We use to cut the grass there. I’m going to be 85 years old, if I were younger, I would take care of it myself. The flag pole is raggedy and the flags are all hanging, it looks terrible. I know that nothing has been done in 16 years but I’m praying that you guys do something.”

Mayor Clark “Thank- you everyone for your comments and concerns. We will have our first Community Solutions meeting on Saturday - June 22,2019 at 10:00 a.m. until 12 noon here at City Hall.”

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Stan Urban of Pro Champs gave an oral presentation and handed out handouts to the council members. Pro Champs is a solution provider for blighted neighborhoods with too tall grass, boarded up properties. We identify who the owners of the properties, the banks and are all over the United States, they have property managers that manage the properties. It would be at no cost to the city. If you partner with we will provide the mayor’s staff with all the information, name address phone number and email to property managers ,staff can write a ticket to the banks. We will keep track of all the properties This is a web based system. Hopefully this board will pass a resolution, you must register with Pro Champs, our collection rating is 85 %. There is a two year agreement, you must pay pro champs \$300 dollars twice a year, and we only keep a portion of that the rest goes to the Treasurer. We do foreclosure registration, Vacant property registration, Rental property registration and pet registrations. This will bring potential revenue streams for the City of Harvey. We have partnered with several local communities.”

Mayor Clark “I’d like to entertain a motion to approve the agreement with Pro Champs.

Alderwoman Drewenski made the motion to accept Pro Champs agreement. The motion was second by Alderman Rogers

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

CITY CLERK'S REPORT:

Good evening everyone! I have one correction, the posted Special meeting will be held on Thursday - June 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Council chambers.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

FIRE CHIEF:

City Clerk Rosa Arambula swore in Harvey Fire Chief - Jason Bell that he would faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Chief according to the best of his ability. *Congratulations!*

DEPUTY CHIEF:

City Clerk Rosa Arambula swore in Deputy Police Chief - Martin Smith that he would faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Deputy Chief according to the best of his ability. *Congratulations!*

POLICE CHIEF:

City Clerk Rosa Arambula swore in Harvey Police Chief - Eddie Winters that he would faithfully discharge the duties of the office Chief according to the best of his ability. *Congratulations!*

THE CITY TREASURER'S REPORT:

City Treasurer Aisha Pickett was present, she thanked the Mayor's office and staff, the Clerk's office and staff and the Comptroller for helping her through this process. The annual Treasurer's 2018 report has been filed with Cook County. The 2018 Audit is being finalized we are still working on the final numbers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Alderman Rogers Drewenski to table the Minutes May 16, 2019. The motion was second by Alderman Randel El.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Alderman Rogers motion to table the minutes dated May 28, 2019. The motion was second by Alderman Randel El.

Voting Aye were Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.
Alderwoman Drewenski – Abstained

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

Mayor Clark “The Aldermen did not receive the bills for payment. We have scheduled a special meeting for Thursday - June 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Moved by Alderman Crudup motion to table the bills for payment. The motion was second by Alderman Tolbert.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORT BY THE MAYOR:

Mayor Clark “I’ll be brief, in your packets were the two veto letters. The letters of veto for An ordinance amending Ordinance #3232 Reorganizing Standing committees of the City Council of Harvey, Il. and A resolution Authorizing the retention of Legislative Counsel.

Alderman Tolbert “Why did you veto Ord, 3232?”

Mayor Clark read his veto aloud.

Alderman Tolbert Did you see anything illegal?”

Alderman Randle El “Let the record reflect...that be an agenda item at the next city council meeting to overturn the mayors veto of :An ordinance amending Ordinance # 3232 reorganizing Standing Committees of the City Council of Harvey, Il. and the resolution authorizing the retention of Legislative Counsel. ”

ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS FOR THE CITY OF HARVEY.

Resolution # 2897 - A resolution for the City of Harvey – Cook County- Illinois
A Notice of appointment of an Authorized Agent for (IMRF) the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund.

Alderman Randle El made the motion to adopt resolution #2897. The motion was second by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution #2898 - A resolution authorizing and assignment agreement between Cook County Sherriff and the City of Harvey – Cook County- Illinois.

Mr. Jim Delisa gave an oral presentation of the program and how it works. It is the renew program. What this program will do for the city of Harvey is they will take down properties as long as the City owns it. We get all the permits from Cook County.

Alderman Randle El “How does one get in the program?”

Mr. Delisa “You must be sentenced.”

Alderwoman Drewenski motion to adopt Resolution #2898. The motion was second by Alderman Tolbert.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Clark “Would we like to take the petitions and communications in an omnibus Vote.”

Alderwoman Drewenski “Point of order Mayor, I have questions on several of them, we should do them individual.”

City Clerk Arambula “Mayor, I have one item to take out, Item D, they want to come to the next Council meeting.”

A. Mt. Olive Grand Lodge 144th Halsted to Union requests permission to block street for their community cleanup day Saturday - July 20, 2019.

Alderwoman Drewenski motion to grant permission to Mt Olive Grand Lodge. The motion was second by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

B. Children's Habilitation Center 154th Street requests permission to block street for their family Picnic Saturday - June 22, 2019.

Alderman Rogers motion to grant permission to Mt Olive Grand Lodge. The motion was second by Alderman Tolbert.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

C. Nehemiah Christian Center Ministries requests permission to block street for their Outdoor Music Festival – August 25, 2019.

Alderwoman Drewenski motion to grant permission to Mt Olive Grand Lodge. The motion was second by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

E. Sugarbayyy's Sports Bar 15414 Park Ave – July 13, 2019 for their Annual Crossroads Car show.

Several of the Aldermen had questions and concerns about the traffic control, security and loud music.

Alderwoman Tolbert motion to grant permission to Sugarbabyyy's Sports Bar that they submit their security plans to the Police Department and turn music off at 11:00 p.m.. The motion was second by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

F. The Josephson's Family 14932 Maplewood requests permission to block the Street for their block party /Cookout on Thursday - July 4, 2019 starting at 9:00 a.m. until 12 midnight .

Alderwoman Drewenski made the motion that they should resubmit their application. The motion was second by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS BY THE ALDERMEN:

Ward 4 –Alderman Key “Thanks for everyone coming out tonight. I am concerned about all entire ward. If you wish to reach me my phone number is (708) 642- 1193. I have a few issues. No 1 the Community center plan. We need a place for our youth to go in the summer. We have a big problem at 147th Wood and Winchester, when the train stops we have more cars going down Lincoln and we have big truck coming down the street we need a “No Trucks Allowed” signs posted. That’s a very serious issue. In the 4th Ward we have Faith United Center Church with pastor Tarver on Dixie highway they would like to clean up that vacant lot and the church would like to use it for additional parking spaces for the

Ward 6 – Alderman Rogers “Good evening, I will be very brief, first of all want to thank everyone for coming out to our city council meeting. Resident of the 6th ward I appreciate you are, Mrs. Hill ,Mr. King Ms. Brown if we look at the bad we should also look at the good ,since this new administration has been in office. There are no more pot holes there is no more street,.What goes on in our community, this didn’t come over night, give us a chance. I promise you we are going to turn this around.’

Ward 3 – Alderman Crudup residents of City of Harvey and most importantly the residents of the 3rd Ward ,I just want to thank the Mayor and his staff . Thank you to Rick Seput for cleaning the alleys.. I want to commend Mr. Fisher and the Water depart for cleaning around Family Christian Health Center and a huge thank you Chief Winters for the timely responses for the issues that occurred in the 3 Ward. I want to give some contractors that volunteered their and efforts in the 3rd Ward Thank you to Ty & Jade and L & L landscaping.”

Ward 5 – Alderman Randle El “Thank you to all the residents for hanging in there it was long., but it was important to me that everyone got an opportunity to speak. So many of you have expressed concerns with that. This is a great Legislative body and great Executive branch of our government as you can see at the Pro Champs option and the Cook County Sherriff options we are trying to deal with grass, we are try to deal with abandon properties, not from a short term perspective or a quick fix but, from something that will be long term so that we can stop having this conversation. In order for us to do

that we have to put systems in place and go on to the long hall, but for actually putting this in place we can deal with it for once and for all, that was a goal. I do understand that the delays are frustrating, it is frustrating for me too, I live here too. I travel these same streets you all do. That why we want real solutions and not bandages. No we see how these programs can help us , I appreciate you all being here but go back and share that with your neighbors, friends what you have heard. The Ward meetings are coming , but it's important that we connect with one another. The City of Harvey is moving in a new direction and it takes all of us to make it happen''

Ward 2 – Alderman Tolbert, I will be brief , I'd first like to congratulate Chief Winters, Chief Bell and Deputy Chief Smith. Thank you to Rick Seput for taking care of the things in the 2nd Ward and I want to thank the members of the Gauger Block Club for coming out tonight.”

Ward 1 – Alderwoman Drewenski “Residents of the 1st was special permits for live bands Last Saturday at 166^t Union. and 162nd. Emerald they had a live band, there were about 150 people at a house party, music going, people can't park their cars, people blocking drive ways, people parking on others grass and in the alleys I'm hoping we can come up with a time frame. Every special permit should go to the Policed Department. Send someone over to shut it down. Not everyone likes the same music. The band may sound wonderful. I get the calls so I'm asking if you are going to have a party, please be sensitive to your neighbors. You have a lot of seniors, in my family, my sister has a pace maker and the base in the cars makes her heart shake. Be a good neighbor, I've already talked to Rick about the dumping, the pot holes. I did contact Cook County, I emailed Cook County on May 8, 2019. I have been following up with Debra Sims office. Let's talk about this special meeting that was held. The Aldermen talk about respect. We have to respect one another, that special meeting was on May 28, 2019. Did you notice I wasn't here, everyone in my ward knew did. I was on vacation, I told everyone here I was on vacation. We were elected in April and we had from April until the day we got sworn in to meet, all six of us, without violation of the open meetings act. I extended my home ,it was a met and greet. So all six of us myself included attended, we got together and learned about our strengths and weakness. We talked about, one others background, we talked about the forensic audit, and I gave each a copy. We talked about committees. Tyrone however said he didn't want to talk about committees, he felt uncomfortable, and the conversation never came up again .. fast forward ..during that meeting I told everyone I was going on vacation. On May 22 – June 1, 2019. I get an email asking what committee you want to be on? The conversation was, that we were going to meet with the mayor as a whole. I leave or vacation and I get notification that there is going to be a meeting on a Friday of Memorial day weekend, Something serious must of happen. What happen committees... that was the special meeting, but it got cancelled . I don't know what happen at the meeting, I didn't get the minutes ,I did see the tape. Was anyone in attendance? I have a list of all the committees, those of you that know me, I'm a detailed person. I was scheduled for the Diversity and Community Relations committee. This is a reflection of the good old boys club. On June 10th, 2019 marks the 100 th year marks the women's right to vote. I have 35 years of managerial experience, 35 years. I have a college degree, can anyone here say you have 35 guess what else I

have, no anyone here can say this I have been elected in my seat 3 times I was elected by the highest percentage of votes, not one person can say that so I'm going to ask you, .I feel this was a lack of consideration, gender bias, and discrimination against me. You have a Alderman who is focused, though and compassionate about this city and you have a Mayor that is focused, and compassionate about this city. We women as helped get these gentlemen elected. We all have to work together."

Alderman Randel El - "Since we have traveled down this path,. There is a learning curve to every side of this. We did talk on the phone didn't we? When it comes down to taking care of business I 'm going to take care of the business "

Mayor Clark "This is a business meeting. I don't want a mayoral comment, I don't us to have Alderman comments. Your Alderman will have the opportunity to meet here at city hall. We need to change the way we conduct ourselves, as the chair comments are closed. We have an executive session. The Community Solutions Meetings, I will meet on June 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Clark " I'd like a motion to go in to closed session."

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 10:08 p.m.

Motion by Alderman Rogers to go into executive session. The motion was second by Alderwoman Drewenski.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Alderman Rogers to reconvene from executive session. The motion was second by Alderman Key.

Alderman Tolbert "I didn't vote to go into executive session."
Just skip me then....

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: 10:57 P.M.

Alderman Rogers made the motion to adjourn meeting. The motion was second by Alderwoman Drewenski.

Voting Aye were Alderwoman Drewenski, Aldermen Tolbert, Crudup, Key, Randel El and Rogers.

MOTION CARRIED

City Clerk Rosa M. Arambula